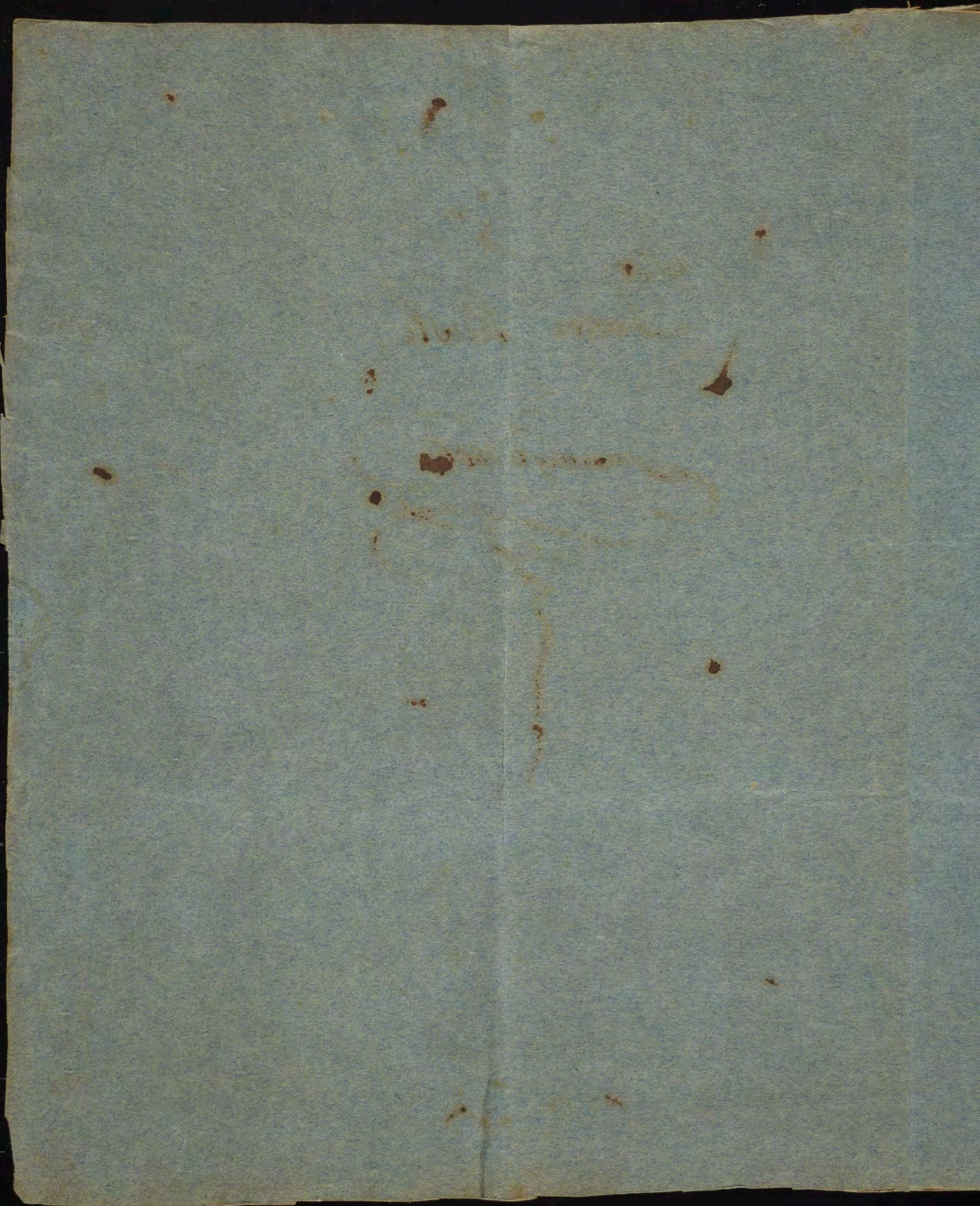


For  
Doctor Rush

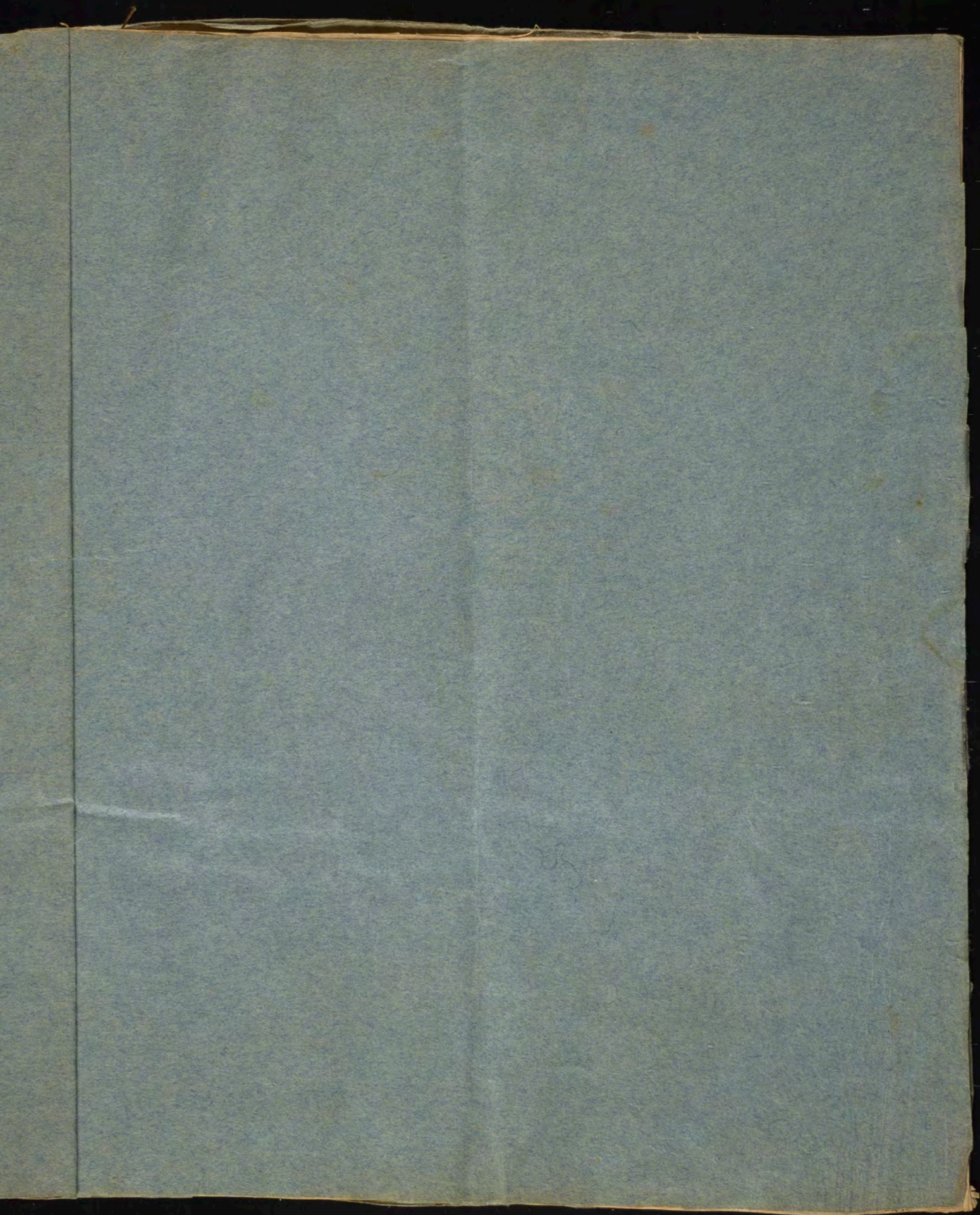
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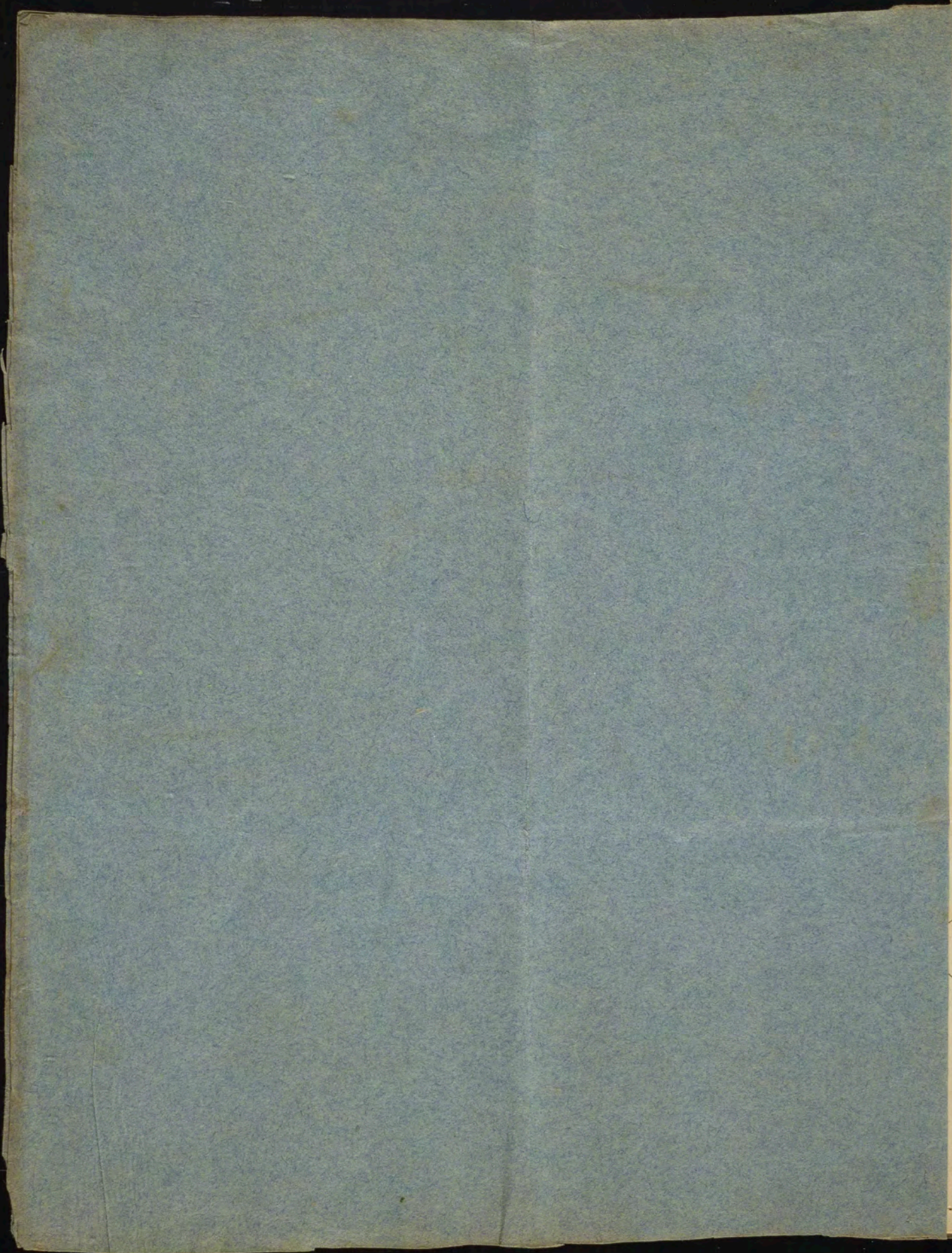














**ESSAY**  
*on the Utility of Clinical*  
**Lectures; & a plan for executing the same for the benefit**  
of the Students in Physic, and promoting the good purposes of this  
Institution; by Doctor Thomas Bond of the city of Philad<sup>a</sup>.

November 26<sup>th</sup> 1766.

In pursuance of the Summons of the Sitting Managers of the  
Pennsylv<sup>a</sup> Hospital, all the managers, except Daniel Roberdeau, and  
John Mease, met at the house of Doctor Thomas Bond, together with the  
following Physicians: Vix<sup>t</sup>, Doctor Thomas Bond,

{ Doctor Redman, } Evans; and { December 3<sup>d</sup> 1766.  
Cadwallader, } Shippen ;

**AND** Doctor Thomas Bond read in our presence the  
above named essay; which is ordered to be inserted on the minutes of this board;  
being as follows — Vix<sup>t</sup> —

When I consider the unskilful hands the  
practice of Physic and Surgery has of necessity been Committed to, in many  
parts of America, it gives me pleasure to behold so many worthy young  
Men, training up in those professions, which, from the nature of their objects,  
are the most interesting to the Community, and yet a greater pleasure  
in foreseeing, that the unparalleled public Spirit, of the good people of this  
Province



Province, will shortly make Philadelphia the ATHENS of America, and render the Sons of Pennsylvania, reputable amongst the most celebrated Europeans, in all the liberal Arts, and Sciences; ~~~~~ This I am at present certain of, that the institutions of Literature and Charity already founded, and the School of Physic lately opened in this City afford sufficient foundation for the Students of physick to acquire all the knowledge necessary for their practising every branch of their Professions, reputably, and judiciously. ~~~~~

The great expence in going from America, to England, and thence from country to country, and Colledge to Colledge, in quest of Medical qualifications, is often a barr to the cultivation of the brightest geniuses amongst us, who might otherwise be Morning Stars in their professions, and most riseful members of Society. - Besides every climate produces diseases peculiar to itself, which require Experience to understand and cure; and even the diseases of the Several Seasons in the same country, are found to differ so much some years, from what they were in others, that Sydenham, the most sagacious Physician that ever lived, acknowledges that he was often difficulted and much mistaken in the treatment of Epidemics for some time after their appearance. ~~~~~

No Country then can be so proper for  
the



the instruction of Youth in the knowledge of Physic, as that in which 'tis to be practised; where the precepts of never failing Experience are handed down from Father to Son, from Tutor to Pupil.

That this is not a speculative opinion, but real matter of fact, may be proven from the Savages of America, who without the Assistance of literature have been found possessed of skill in the cure of Diseases incident to their Climate, superior to the regular bred, and most learned Physicians, and that from their Discoveries the present practise of Physic has been enriched with some of the most valuable Medecines now in use.

Therefore from principles of Patriotism and Humanity, the physic school here should meet all the protection and encouragement, the Friends of their Country, and well wishers of Mankind can possibly give it: Though 'tis yet in its infancy from the judicious treatment of its Guardians, it is already become a forward Child, and has the promising appearance of soon arriving to a vigorous, and Healthful maturity. The Professors in it at present are few; but their departments include the most Essential parts of Education; Another whose distinguished abilities will do Honour to his Country, and the institution, is expected to join them in the Spring; And I think he has little faith who can doubt that so good an undertaking will ever fail of Additional strength, and a Providential blessing. And I am

certain



certain nothing would give me so much pleasure, as to have it my Power to Contribute the least mite towards its perfect Establishment.

The Professors of Anatomy & Physiology, are well qualified for the task; their dissections, are accurate and Elegant, and their Lectures, learned, judicious and clear.

The Professor of the theory, and Practise of Physic, has had the best opportunities of improvement, joined to Genious and application, and cannot fail of giving necessary and instructive Lessons to the pupils.

The Field this Gentleman undertakes is very Extensive, and has many difficulties which may mislead the footsteps of an uncautioned Traveller, therefore Lectures, in which the different parts of the Theory & Practise of Physic are judiciously Classed, and Systematically explained, will prevent many perplexities, the Students would otherwise be embarrassed with, will unfold the doors of Knowledge and be of great use in directing and abridging his future Studies. Yet there is something further wanting, he must join Examples, with Study, before he can be sufficiently qualified to prescribe for the Sick; for Language and Books alone, can never give him adequate ideas of diseases, and the best methods of treating them; for which reasons

Infirmitis



5.  
Infirmities are justly reputed the grand Theatres of Medical Knowledge.

There the Clinical Professor comes into the Aid of Speculation and demonstrates the truth of theory by Facts: he meets his Pupils at stated times in the **Hospital**, and when a case presents adapted to his purpose, he asks all those Questions which lead to a Certain Knowledge of the disease, and parts affected; this he does in the most exact and particular manner, to Convince the Students, how many, and what minute circumstances are often necessary to form a judgment of the curative indications, on which the safety, and life of the patient depends; from all which circumstances and the present Symptoms, he pronounces what the disease is, whether it is curable or incurable, in what manner it ought to be treated, and gives his reasons from Authority or Experience for all he says on the Occasion; and if the Disease baffles the power of Art, and the Patient falls a Sacrifice to it, he then brings his knowledge to the test, and fixes Honour or discredit on his Reputation by Exposing all the morbid parts to View, and demonstrates by what means it produced **DEATH**; and if perchance he finds something unsuspected, which betrays an Error in Judgment, he like a Great and Good Man, immediately acknowledges the mistake, and for the benefit of survivors points out other methods by which it



6. it might have been more happily treated: The latter part of this piece of Instruction is the surest method of obtaining just ideas of Diseases. The great Boerhaave was so attentive to it, that he was not only present at the opening of Human bodies, but frequently attended the Slaughter houses in Leyden, to examine the carcasses of beasts and being asked by a learned friend, by what means he had acquired such uncommon Certainty in the **DIAGNOSTICS** and **Prognostics** of diseases, answered by Examining dead bodies, studying Sydenhams observations, and Bonetus's Sepulchretum Anatomicum, both which he had read **TEN** times, and each time with greater pleasure, and improvement.

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But to give you more familiar instances of the Utility of this practice, let me remind several of You, who were present last Fall at the opening two Bodies, One of which died of Asthmatic complaints, the other of apoplexy succeeded by a Palsy, and ask you whether any thing short of ocular demonstration; could have given you just Ideas of the Causes of the Patients Death, in one we saw a dropsy in the left side of the Thorax, and a curious polypus,

With, With



With its growing Fimbria of Fourteen inches in length (now in <sup>1</sup>  
the Hospital) extending from the ventricle of the Heart, far beyond  
the Bifurcation of the Pulmonary Artery, in the other we found the  
Brain partly separated and the Ventricle on the opposite side  
to that affected, with the paralysis, distended by a large quantity  
of limpid serum; and you must remember, that the State of all  
the Morbid parts were predicted, before they were exposed to view:  
Which may have a further advantage, by rousing in you  
an industrious pursuit after the most hidden causes of all the  
Affections of the Human body; and convince you what injury they  
do to the living, who oppose a decent, painless, and well timed ex-  
amination of the Dead.

**Thus** all the Professors in the European Colleges,  
of the best kind, go hand in hand, and co-operate with each other,  
by regular chains of reasoning and occasional demonstrations,  
to the satisfaction and improvement of the Students. —

But more is required of us in this  
late settled world, where new diseases often occur, and others  
common to many parts of Europe visit us too frequently, which  
it behoves the Guardians of Health, to be very watchful of,  
that they may know them well, and by an hearty Union, and  
Brotherly



Brotherly communication of observations investigate their Causes, and check their progress. The task is Arduous, but 'tis a debt we owe to our friends and our Country. The Atmosphere that surrounds us is fine, and the Air we breathe, free, pure, and naturally Healthy, and I am fully persuaded we shall find on strict enquiry, when it becomes otherwise, 'tis mostly from Contagion imported, or neglected Sources of **Putrifaction** amongst ourselves, and therefore when ever we are able to demonstrate the Causes, they may be removed and the Effects prevented.

Our fathers after insuring to us the full enjoyment of the inestimable blessings of Religious, and Civil Liberty, have settled us in a Country that affords all the real comforts of life, and given us the prospect of becoming one day, a great and happy People, and I know only one reason or Objection to a prudent mans giving North America the preference to any other part of the British dominions for the place of his residence, which is, that the Climate is sometimes productive to Severe Epidemic diseases in the Summer and Fall: The Country is otherwise free from those tedious and dangerous Fevers which frequently infect most parts of Europe. The last wet Summer and a short space of hot dry weather in Autumn, caused so many Intermittents from the Southern Suburbs of this City all the way to Georgia, that I may venture to assert two thirds of the inhabitants were not able to do the least Business for many weeks, and some families, & even Townships were so distressed that they had not well persons sufficient to attend the sick, during which time this City was Unusually Healthy, how respectful, and respectable then, would be the Characters of those men, who should wipe this Stain out of the AMERICAN Escutcheon and rescue their Country from such frequent calamities.



Sufficient encouragement to make the attempt, is found both in History, <sup>9.</sup>  
the books of Physic, and our own Experience. Several instances are  
Recorded of places that were so sickly, as to be uninhabitable, until Princes  
have ordered their Physicians to search into the causes of their Unhealth-  
-ness, and having discovered and removed them, made thereby va-  
-luable additions to their Kingdoms. Was not our Antient  
and great Master Hippocrates, so knowing in the Cause of  
Pestilential contagion, as to foresee an approaching Plague,  
and send his Pupils into the Cities to take care of the sick, and  
has not He, and Sydenham the English Hippocrates,  
done infinite Service to the healing Art, and gained Immortal  
Honours to themselves, by their Essays on Epidemics in which  
they not only accurately describe the Diseases of their respective  
Countries, but shew the depraved Constitution of the Air which  
produced each of them. Our own Experience also affords much  
encouragement, when I first came into this City the Dock, was the  
Common Sewer of filth, and was such a nuisance to the inhabitants,  
about it, every Fall, that they were obliged to use more pounds of  
bark, than they have Ounces since it was raised, and levelled.  
Another striking instance of the Advantage of Cleanliness for  
the preservation of Health, affords me an opportunity of paying  
A Tribute, justly due, to the Wisdom of the Legislature of this  
Province, in framing the salutary laws for paving & regulating  
the Streets of this City, and to the indefatigable industry and skill  
of the Commissioners in executing them, whereby they have contri-  
-buted so much to the Healthiness of the inhabitants, that I am  
Confident the whole Expence will be repaired in TEN Years, by



The lessening of Physic bills alone. A farm within a few miles of this City was remarkably healthy for Fifty Years, whilst the tide overflowed the low Sands, near the dwelling house, but after they were banked in by ditches so ill contrived that they often did not discharge the Water that fell into them for a considerable time, and Until it became putrid, and thereby rendered the place as Remarkably sickly, as it had before been healthy, I am told by a Gentleman of Veracity that he saw the Corpse of ONE of nine tenants that had been carried from it in a **FEW** Years.

**The Yellow Fever**, which I take to be exactly the same distemper as the **PLAGUE** of **ATHENS**, described by Thucydides, has been five different times in this city since my residence in it, the causes of three of them I was luckily able to trace, and I am certain they were the same which produced a **Goal** fever in other places, and am of opinion the difference betwixt the appearance of these fevers, arises from the Climate, and the different state the Bodies are in when they imbibe the Contagion, if so, the same methods which are taken to prevent a goal Fever, will Equally prevent a Yellow Fever; I was in the year 1741, I first saw that horrid Disease which was then imported by a Number of Convicts from the Dublin Goal. The second time it prevailed it was indogenous from evident causes, and was principally Confined to One Square of the City; **The** third time it was generated on board Crowded Ships in the Port, which brought in their passengers in health, but soon after became very sickly, There saw the appearance of Contagion like a Dim Spark which gradually encreased to a Blaze, and soon after burst out into a Terrible **PLAGUE**, carrying devastation

With



With it, and after continuing two Months was Etinguished by the  
profuse Sweats of Tertian fevers, but this is not the Ordinary Cause  
of the Contagion; tis usually checked by the Cool evenings in Septem<sup>r</sup>,  
and dies on the Appearance of an October frost.

I lately visited an Irish passenger  
Vessel, which brought the people perfectly healthy untill they came  
in our river, I found five of them ill, and others Unwell, and  
Saw that the fumes of infection was spreading among them,  
I therefore ordered the ship to lay Quarantine, to be well purified  
with the Steams of Sulphur, and with Vinegar, directed the  
Bedding, and Cloathing of the people to be well Wash'd and Aird,  
before any person should be permitted to land out of her, after  
which I advised separating the Sick from the Healthy. This was  
done by putting twelve in different rooms in one House, and fourteen  
in another, out of the City, the conveniences of the two Houses were  
much the same, in One of them little care was taken of the Sick,  
who were laid upon the same foul beds, they (Contrary to Orders)  
brought on Shore with them, the consequence was, that all the  
family caught the distemper, and the Landlord Died.  
In the other my directions were strictly observed, the Sick had  
Clean cloaths, and clean bedding, were well attended, and soon  
Recovered, without doing the least injury to any person that  
Visited them; which confirms Observations which I had often  
made before, that the Contagion of Malignant Fevers, lies  
in the Air, confined and Corrupted, by a neglect of Rags, and  
other filth about the Helpless Sick, and not from their Bodies.



As each of these heads, shall be a Subject of a future Lecture, I shall at present only mention to You further, a few of those Methods which have preserved individuals from prevailing diseases.

The inhabitants of Hispaniola, have found the wearing flannel Shirts to be a preservative against Intermitting Fevers in that Sickly Island, and as that disease is known to Arise principally from inhaling a great Quantity of the Humidity of the Air, I make no doubt 'twould also be of Use in preventing them in our low, moist, level Countries.

We know that the bark of the Sassafras contains many Excellent Medicinal Virtues, my worthy friend Mr. Peter Franklin told me that he being in the Fall of the Year, in the River Nantikoke in Maryland, and on seeing the People on Shore much afflicted with intermitting Fevers, advised the Mariners of the Ship to drink freely, by way of prevention, of that Aromatic, and Antiseptic Medicine, but could not prevail on more than half the Company to do it, and that he and all the Others who took it, enjoyed Perfect health, whilst not a single person of the rest, Escaped, a Severe attack of the Epidemic Disease, I have known other similar instances, which 'tis needless to mention, since this remarkably pertinent.

But I have many reasons to expect that a more agreeable, and equally certain preventative against our Autumnal Fevers, will be found in Sulphureous Chalybeate Waters, which may readily be procured in most parts of America, especially where those Diseases are most prevalent, A Spring of this kind at Gloucester within a few miles of this place, has been much Used of late, and has been so much, and very, serviceable To Invalids, it has the appearance of being a valuable Convenience to the City, Persons under various diseases took Lodgings in the Village the last Season, for the advantage of drinking

The, 1782



the waters at the fountain HEAD, and though the Fall was more  
 Sickly than has been known in the Memory of Man, not one, who  
 went there for health, nor any one of the inhabitants near the Spaw,  
 who drank it freely, had a touch of the prevailing Disease, whilst  
 a Major part, of those that did not, had more the Appearance of  
 GHOST, than living Creatures, there were TWO houses, the habi-  
 = tations of FATHER and SON, within twenty feet of each other, The  
 Family of the Father had Suffered greatly from Intermitting fevers  
 the preceeding Fall, and some of them continued invalids till the  
 middle of Summer, when they were prevailed on, to take the Waters,  
 after which they daily recovered HEALTH, Bloom, and Vigour,  
 and passed the sickly Season without a complaint, whilst scarcely  
 A person in that of the SON, who did not take them, Escaped a  
 Severe illness, 'Tis well known from experience, that Mineral  
 Waters are not only the most palative, but the most Salutary parts  
 of the MATERIA MEDICA, and that the Effect of those which  
 are pure and properly impregnated with Chalybeate Principles,  
 Strengthen digestion, brace and Counteract the Summers MEN,  
 dilute a thick putrid bile, the Instrument of Mischief in all hot Climates,  
 and immediately wash away putrefaction through the Excretaries  
 Of the Bowels, Skin, or Kidneys, and therefore appear to be natural  
 Preservatives against the Effect of an hot, moist, and putrid At-  
 = mosphere, Whether these waters will answer my sanguine expect-  
 = ations, or not, must be left to the Decision of DEITY; If  
 they should be found wanting, that ought not discourage our  
 Further



14, Further pursuit, for since Providence has furnished every Count  
with a defence for the Human body, against the inclemencies of  
Heat and Cold, why should we Question whether infinite WISDOM and  
Goodness has made equal Provision against all other natural inju-  
ries of our Constitutions; Experience and REASON encourages to  
believe it has, and that the means might be discovered by diligent  
Investigation were our researches Equal to the DEITY, the above  
instances are therefore related to convince You, that the prevention  
of some of the Epidemic diseases of AMERICA is not only  
a laudable and rational pursuit, but is more within the limits  
of Human precaution than has been generally been imagined &  
to excite your particular Attention to the improvement of this humane  
and interesting part of your Profession, in which, and all other  
Useful undertakings, I most Sincerely wish you Success.

I am now to inform you, Gentlemen, that the Mana-  
gers & Physicians of the Pennsylvania Hospital, on seeing the  
great number of you attending the School of Physic in  
this City, are of Opinion, this excellent institution likewise Affords  
a favourable opportunity of farther improvement to you in the  
Practical part of your professions, and being desirous it should  
answer all the good purposes intended by the generous Contributors  
to it, have allotted to me the Task of giving a Course of Clinical,  
and Meteorological observations in it, which I cheerfully  
undertake though the Season of my life points out Relaxation  
and Retirement, in hopes, that the remarks on the many Curious  
Cases that must daily occur, amongst One hundred and thirty,  
Sick persons, collected together at one time, may be very instructive.

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tive to You, I therefore propose to meet you at Stated times here, and give  
You the best information in my power of the nature and treatment of  
Chronical diseases, and of the proper management of Ulcers, Wounds &  
Fractures, I shall shew you all the Operations of Surgery, and endea-  
= your, from the Experience of Thirty Years, to introduce you to a familiar  
Acquaintance with the acute diseases of your own Country; in Order to  
which, I shall put up a Compleat Meteorological Apparatus, and  
Endeavour to inform you of all the known Properties of the Atmosphere  
which Surrounds us, and the Effects its frequent variations produce  
on Animal Bodies, and confirm the doctrine, by an Exact register,  
of the Weather, and of the prevailing diseases, both here, and in the  
Neighbouring Provinces, to which I shall add, the interesting observati-  
= ons which may occur in Private practice, and sincerely wish it  
may be in my power to do them to your Satisfaction.

I likewise have the pleasure to inform you,  
that Doctor Smith, has promised to go through a Course of Expe-  
= rimental Philosophy in the Colledge, for your instruction in  
Pneumatics, Hydraulics, & Mechanics, which will be of  
the greatest advantage to a ready Comprehension of the Meteorio-  
= logical Lectures, and other parts of your Medical Studies,  
and lay you under the highest obligations to that learned Professor.

Which being considered, and the proposal  
Unanimously approved, it is Agreed.

That a Meteorological Apparatus  
may be fixed in the room where the Anatomical paintings  
and Casts are deposited, and it is recommended to the Doctors  
to employ some careful and skilful person to take down Obser-  
= vations on the State of the Air, and Weather, and duly to register the  
same



16.

Same. And inasmuch as the Exhibiting these Lectures judiciously performed is allowed will be an additional improvement, for the Benefit of the Students in Physic, it is agreed, that each Student Attending them (except such who are subject to the payment of the Six Pistoles heretofore agreed to be paid for their attending the Wards) shall pay to the sitting Managers, or the Treasurer, One Guinea Annuum for the privilege of Attending them, and the Money arising from thence, shall be applied towards Estab-  
=lishing, and Promoting the Medical Library.

Resolved that

The Matron have particular directions, that the bodies of the Patients who die, should be Taken into the Upper Hall, to be laid out in a, Suitable apartment there to be provided for that purpose.

Also Resolved

That when the Physicians Shall Conclude it necessary to open the bodies of any of the dead, that they previously Consult the sitting Managers thereon, and Obtain their Consent.

Finis.



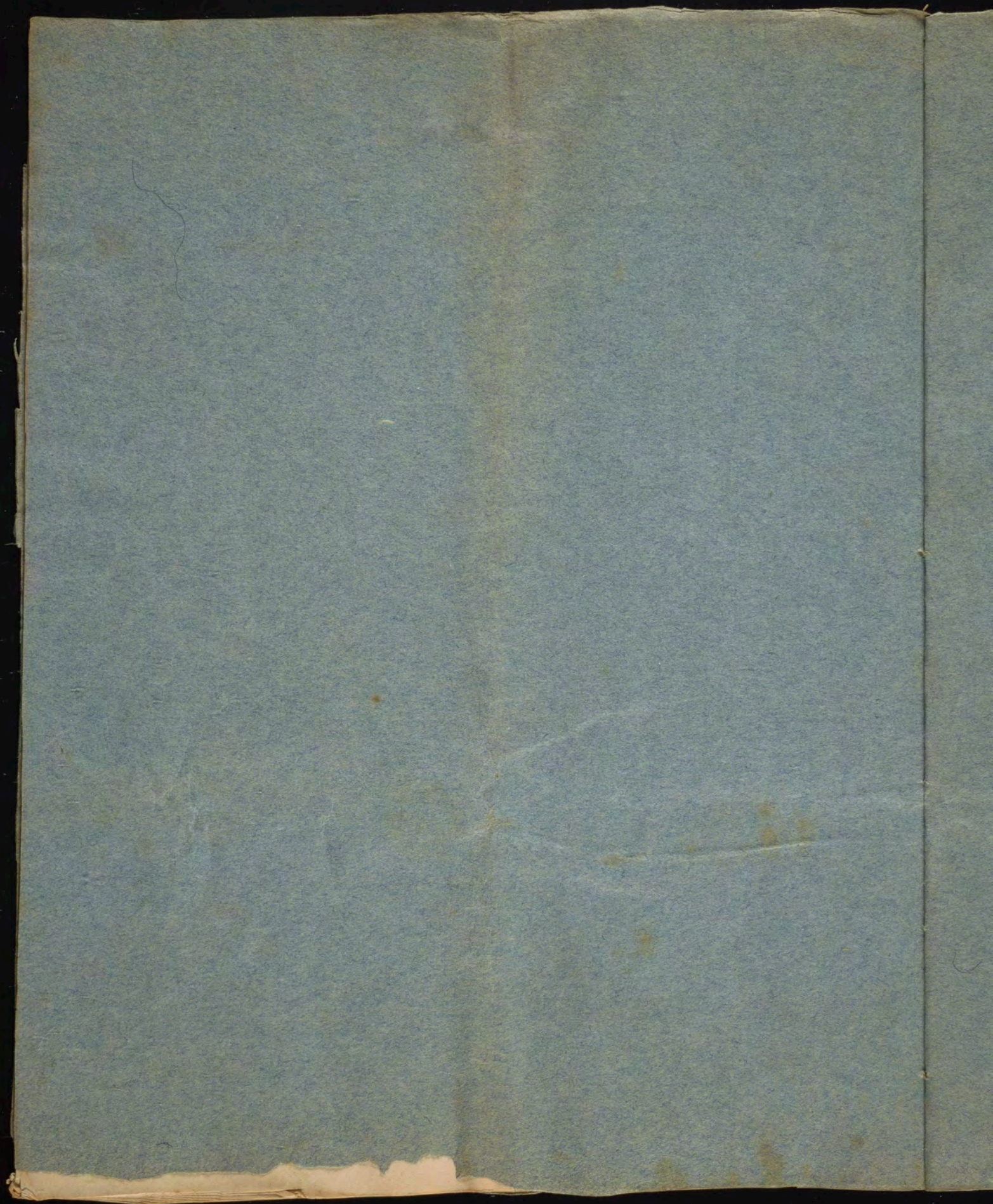


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Dr Tho Bond's  
Clinical Lecture

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